Fun in the Sun

Opportunities abound beginning Friday, with education sessions that will revitalize you as a medical assistant practitioner or educator. First-time attendees and students, the AAMA Board of Trustees wants to meet you at a special get-together on Friday morning. On Saturday, everyone is welcome to increase their leadership and organizational knowledge by attending the AAMA Board of Trustees and House of Delegates meetings and participating in Reference Committee hearings. State and chapter leaders, don’t miss the event specially designed for you—the State Leaders session on Sunday at 1 PM.

Along the way, we throw in some food, fun, and recognition! On Friday evening, the Board of Trustees will join you at the Welcome and Awards Celebration, where the Awards Committee will welcome all conference attendees and salute the deserving winners of the 2022 state-society-level Excel Awards.

Note: The 2022 winners of the Awards of Distinction, Medical Assistant Employer of the Year Awards, and Student Essay Award will be announced and celebrated at the Presidents Banquet Sunday evening.

Shuttle Bus Information

A shuttle service will be available to conference registrants between the overflow and host hotels. Service will run from Friday, Oct. 21, through Monday, Oct. 24, picking up and dropping off conference registrants continuously between the hotels during its hours of operation.

Details on the shuttle’s hours of operation for each day will be posted to the AAMA website on the “Conference” webpage.

Can I walk from my overflow hotel to the host hotel?

Conference registrants staying at the Grande Shores Ocean Resort may find it doable to walk to the host hotel (Marriott Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes). The distance is 0.7 miles: walking is projected to take about 15 minutes; driving is projected to take about 5 minutes.

Conference registrants staying at the Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort will find they’ll travel best by driving or being driven to the host hotel (Marriott Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes). The distance is 4 miles: driving is projected to take about 10 minutes.

If you plan to drive to the host hotel, there’s good news: parking is free at the Marriott Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes.

Allergy Alert

As part of reasonable efforts made by the AAMA to accommodate the needs of attendees, we respectfully request that you do not bring any nut products into the conference. Thank you for your consideration.
Great Expectations! Mind the Room Capacities and Long Lines

Due to unprecedented registration numbers for the AAMA Annual Conference this year, the AAMA would like to remind conference attendees that seating at all events, including CE sessions, will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. If there is no room for you at your preferred CE session, please select another.

Also, attendees should expect long lines at the AAMA Help Desk for packet pickup Thursday night and Friday morning. Please plan accordingly.

Other News and Important Reminders

Need Help On-Site? Go to the AAMA Help Desk
In previous years, the place to go for conference registration and any conference- or AAMA-related questions was the AAMA Registration Desk. Because there will be no on-site registration this year, we’re calling it the AAMA Help Desk.

AAMA staff will be available to answer any questions you may have in the area designated the Group Registration Alcove according to the hours noted in the Agenda of Events in the on-site program. This is also the place to pick up your registration packets!

Don’t Forget to Meal Plan
To keep your mind sharp, plan how you’ll fit meals into your busy conference schedule.

Note: No registration or meal tickets are available for purchase on-site or day-of because we have reached capacity for all events.

Friday through Sunday
Continental breakfast is included in full or day-of registrations for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
All lunches and dinners (excluding the Presidents Banquet) are the responsibility of each attendee.

Friday Only
There will be drinks and snacks available in the foyer before the Welcome and Awards Celebration on Friday.

Sunday Only
If you registered for the entire weekend or for Sunday, you’re invited to attend dinner during the Presidents Banquet.

Monday Only
Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are the responsibility of each attendee.

Badges Are a Must
You must wear your conference badge at all CE sessions and food events. This requirement is in place to ensure that the limited space available is enjoyed by conference registrants rather than non-registrants.

More Time to Shop
Check out the array of vendors in the Exhibitors Hall, which will be open two days this year! The event is open on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 AM to 4 PM and Sunday, Oct. 23, from 8 AM to 12 PM.
**Going Out in Style**
Join the AAMA Board of Trustees for the Presidents Banquet 7:30 PM Sunday. We will salute state leaders with the Parade of Presidents, honor the departing and newly elected members of the Board of Trustees, and celebrate the 2022 winners of the Awards of Distinction, Medical Assistant Employer of the Year Awards, and Student Essay Award. And we’ll do all of it in style: cocktail attire is the dress code for the event.

**Turn the Tide**
The AAMA Board of Trustees and the Continuing Education Board want to hear from you. After the conference, you will receive an email directing you to two online surveys. One survey is for your feedback on the AAMA Annual Conference, and the other survey is for feedback on the continuing education sessions you attended (as well as your important suggestions for future topics). These surveys will be available for only one week, so please respond promptly. And make sure that your email address in your membership record is up to date.

**Delegates and Alternates: Got Questions?**
If you’re a delegate or alternate for the 2022 House of Delegates and you have any questions or concerns, stop by the Credentials Desk on Friday 4–5 PM to speak with Speaker of the House Monica Case, CMA (AAMA), and Vice Speaker of the House Aimee Wicker, CMA (AAMA), PCMH CCE.

**Follow the Leaders!**
You may notice an array of colorful badges on many attendees. Because your AAMA Board of Trustees and education board members are always on the move, they can be hard to spot, so these brightly colored badges will help you out.

- **Yellow:** Board of Trustees
- **Pink:** Continuing Education Board
- **Orange:** Certifying Board
- **Blue:** Medical Assisting Education Review Board
- **Red:** Past Presidents

**We Proudly Present**
The Continuing Education Board and the Practice Managers Task Force present Heather Tudor, DrPH, MBA, RHIA, CCRP, an assistant professor at Eastern Kentucky University, who will offer an 8 AM Sunday session on “Methods to Boost Quality Improvement in Health Care.”

The Certifying Board, along with the North Carolina and South Carolina state societies, invites you to be a part of the ever-popular “CMA (AAMA) Knowledge Bowl” on Sunday at 10:30 AM. Team up with your peers to answer general, administrative, and clinical questions and win prizes! Teams of four are selected randomly, and educators are eligible to participate. Space is limited, so sign up early! Sign-up sheets will be in the AAMA Help Desk area.

**Get Your CEUs on the Record**
You may drop off the CE checklist in the drop box at the AAMA Help Desk (Group Registration Alcove). *(If you forget to do so, fax them as soon as possible after conference to 312/899-1259, or scan and email them to Conference@aama-ntl.org.)*
The following CE sessions that were originally scheduled for Friday, Oct. 21, 4–6 p.m., will be available virtually to conference registrants who’ve registered for Friday or for the entire weekend. In early November, registrants will be emailed links to recordings of the CE sessions as well as electronic attendance forms that they must submit to earn credit.

- Leading through Personality Types
- Working with Deaf Patients
- Speaking Terms: Communication Strategies to Promote Alcohol-Free Pregnancies

**Weather Forecast**

If you’re planning any sightseeing during your stay, we hope the weather will bid fair, but you can check the forecast at [https://www.weather.com](https://www.weather.com).

**Preconference Newsletter Staff:** Gina Lang, Nick Mickowski, Laura Niebrugge, Miranda Sanks-Korenchan, and Kelli Smith